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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

re Application of

Atty. Dkt. No.: 2288-006

Charles J. STOUFFER et al.

Serial No.: 09/434,507

Group Art Unit: 3727

Filed: November 5, 1999

Examiner: S. Pollard

For: HIGH TEMPERATURE ISOSTATIC PRESSURE BONDING OF HOLLOW BERYLLIUM PRESSURE VESSELS

USING A BONDING FLANGE

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Hon. Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In reply to the Office Action mailed December 22, 2000, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

At page 1, between lines 4 and 5 (i.e., above the section heading "BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION"), please insert the following new section:

-- CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

The present application claims priority under 35 U.S.C. \$ 119(e) from provisional application no. 60/143,916, filed July 14, 1999. --

Date: March 22, 2001